

SCIENTIFIC METHODS ARE SLOWLY FREEING TWO GIRLS HELD IN AFFLICTION OF DUAL PERSONALITY ILLUSIONS

LOVELY GIRL BECOMES SIX-YEAR-OLD BENEATH AMAZING SPIRIT SPELL

Claire Beauclaire, 18, Strangely Resembles the Equally Weird Experience of Bernice Redick, Also 18, Whose Lapses Into "Polly" Character Have Been Subject of Much Speculation by Scientific World.

WITCHCRAFT is obsolete, people are no longer possessed by devils, and he who would claim the power to cast demons from the human heart would be mocked by the most ignorant today and perhaps jailed as a lunatic—

Yet what is the final answer to the startling case of Claire Beauclaire, the Brockton girl of mystery? What satisfactory solution can be offered for the amazing condition of Bernice Redick, the Columbus child?

There are no witches, no devils, no demons, no fairies. The spell of the evil eye is rank superstition and it is not possible for one person to cast a curse upon another. The Jekyll and Hyde of literature were creatures without foundation save in a fanciful author's imagination. Let these things be emphasized as of general if not absolute conviction, and then—

Meet Miss Claire Beauclaire. She is eighteen, handsome, accomplished, and apparently a healthy, wholesome normal girl, with an eager interest in the everyday affairs of life. She will tell you so and her friends will agree.

BECOMES SIX-YEAR-OLD.

But at irregular intervals this girl goes into trances, in which she dances, sings, combs her hair and conducts herself generally like a child of six years. In this condition she seems to possess the power of second sight to an extent beyond that claimed by professional clair-

voyants, but the girl, waking, has no knowledge of any such power or even understanding it.

While resting on a couch in her home, in Brockton, Mass., recently she described in a childish monotone an automobile accident in which she seemed to think herself involved. She was awakened, as one wakens a dreamer, and the incident caused only casual comment until the evening newspapers printed an account of just such a collision, and the details tallied to the last, least phase.

"LITTLE ANGEL" TELLS HER.

Friends recalled then how she had described places in Brussels, Antwerp and other Belgian cities to them and asked her what she knew of them. Claire laughingly answered that she did not know what they were talking about, because she had no recollection of ever having spoken of such cities or knowing anything about them. But her descriptions were found on investigation to be accurate.

A fortnight ago she rose from her bed, and in a childish voice said she was going downstairs. She left the house. Hours later the city clerk found her walking through the main streets in her pajamas, weeping like a lost child. When she was awakened she could



Claire Beauclaire, dual personality girl, is the central figure in this group. On the right is her mother and on the left is Mrs. Winifred W. Harlow, who is hypnotizing her into health.

not understand how she had come to leave the house.

Dr. George A. Boucher, her family physician, who studied the extraordinary case, questioned the girl closely, and she said:

"I only know that when I sleep sometimes a little angel comes to me and tells me to wake. The angel told me to get a needle and pick out the awful eyes that were watching me and I tried to do it, but I have not been able to do it yet."

Then it was recalled that two years ago Claire was attacked by a Greek, who attempted to embrace her. She slapped his face soundly and he fled, threatening "to follow her with his eyes," as Claire repeated her understanding of his words.

Specialists in neurosis and kindred ailments of the mind and nerves studied the girl without ascertaining any definite cause for her condition. Even the recalled threat of the Greek did not reconcile her slipping into a state in which she talked and acted as a baby, yet with eyes closed could curl her hair with heated tongs and dance without losing balance or stumbling.

IS SHE UNDER LOVE SPELL.

So far as physicians and specialists have been able to divine there is nothing abnormal about the girl. Recommendations were made by several who examined her for a change of air, relaxation and prolonged rest and similar remedies, but Dr. H. P. Jefferson, a distinguished specialist of Brookline, Mass., after subscribing to these, added this explanation:

"There was an unwelcome suitor who attempted to force his affections upon her. He appears to have given her no rest, no matter where she went to avoid him. He followed and annoyed her."

"All this merely served to distort him in her mind into a frightful ogre-like being and gradually led her to believe that he had placed her under a mystic spell."

"Claire is therefore suffering from a psychic or mental and nervous disorder. Physically, she is normal. A cure may only be effected, not by medical or physical, but by proper educational influences which will replace the bad impressions now operating on her mind."

So far, so good, but where were the educating influences to be applied and how long would the cure require? The girl was brought instead to the home of Mrs. Winifred Webster Harlow, a psychoanalyst, who offered her services toward the disentanglement of the warring personalities in the child's brain.

PSYCHO CURE WORKS.

For a few days Claire slept almost continuously, and when she awoke she was a normal girl in every respect. But in her own home the following day she awakened, babbling like a baby, and asked for her picture books and



BERNICE REDICK

toys. Then suddenly she seemed to sense that she was "not herself," and she begged her mother: "Please take my hand and play you're Mrs. Harlow, and maybe I can grow up again."

Mrs. Beauclaire entered tremulously into the spirit of the wish and, insisting that she was the psychoanalyst, persuaded the girl to sleep. When Claire awakened Mrs. Harlow had come to visit her, and the girl said:

"I am going to get well and stay grown up. I know I am."

And since then, the spells have been less frequent and there is every indication that within a brief time, Claire Beauclaire will be permanently dispossessed of whatever influence it was that had been able to seize control of her brain, regardless of her own will.

Mrs. Harlow, reviewing the case, said:

"It is significant that Claire is confident I can help her, for I am told that she never before believed she was going to 'grow up.' When I first called on her, I found her like a child. Her

Photo by International.

Claire. For where the latter was in her strange periods merely childish, the former was almost vicious. A sprit of wilful mischief appeared to animate her body.

She refused to answer to her own name and asserted that in reality she was "Polly." She wrecked and ruined the toys she demanded and the clothing she wore. She resembled closely the heroine of the screen play, "The Case of Becky," which, by the way, she had never seen and which in turn was taken from an actual medical case of record several decades ago.

Ignoring the vast mass of speculation and exaggeration which surrounded the girl's condition, listen to the cold, scientific statements of Dr. Henry H. Goddard, of the Ohio bureau of juvenile research, who attempted to and succeeded in "casting out" the spirit of Polly in much the same manner as demons were said to have been exorcised in the Biblical pages:

"It will be but a short time before the personality of Polly will be dead forever and Bernice will have sole possession of the girl's mind and body permanently; and this is well, for it must be remembered that Bernice and not Polly is the rightful owner of the little patient's mind and body."

"The girl was in a highly nervous and hysterical condition. Our mental tests soon convinced us that she was possessed of two distinct personalities. In a single day, she changed back and forth eleven times. From a four-year-old child, she became a nineteen-year-old girl, her normal self, and then changed back again."

EXORCISING "POLLY."

"The four-year-old personality said its name was Polly. We made the usual scientific tests and found that Polly was normal in every way a child of four. She could neither read nor write nor distinguish the colors, and most of the talk was baby talk. She took the same delight in playing with toys and handling pretty things that any other four-year-old child would have taken."

"Then when the nineteen-year-old personality would get the upper hand and be in possession, she would have a bright, alert, cultured young woman to deal with—one who wrote beautiful letters, read good books and had ambition to become a musician."

"When Bernice Redick was her nineteen-year-old self we would set her doing the most exacting clerical work in the bureau office and she would perform her task with amazing efficiency."

"But often, in the very midst of such work, she would drop off to sleep and wake up after a few minutes completely possessed by Polly, the four-year-old child."

"Our problem was how to destroy the four-year-old personality. This presented great difficulties, because we found there was not a single connecting link between Polly and Bernice. When the patient was nineteen-year-old Bernice,

Unwelcomed Suitor Who Attempted to Force Affections Upon Claire Believed to Have Mentally Annoyed Girl Until She Thought Herself Under Mystic Spell, Scientists Have Concluded.

she had absolutely no recollection of the Polly personality and no acquaintance with it, and vice versa.

SIX DAYS AS OTHER GIRL.

"One day, when she was Bernice, she asked if she might take a walk about the grounds, and we were willing that she should. But, as she was putting on her hat and cloak, she fell asleep, and for six days after awakening she was Polly every minute."

"At the end of six days, when the Bernice personality again got possession, the first thing she said was: 'Well, I think I'll go out and take a walk.'"

"Success in treating the case began with hypnotism. Invariably when I placed her in a hypnotic state, I found that the nineteen-year-old personality possessed her. I was then able, for the first time, to introduce the Polly personality to the Bernice personality. I did this by telling Bernice all about the four-year-old Polly and how she acted when she was Polly."

"I impressed on her that no young woman with her education, talents and refinements would want to be a four-year-old girl. I made her understand that when she came from out of the hypnotic influence she must remember Polly."

CURED BY HYPNOTISM.

"This proved to be the case. After each hypnotic treatment, when Bernice became her normal self again, we could see that she was coming to have a better understanding of her other personality and with the determination not to let the Polly personality possess her."

As her nervous system began to mend and her other general health to improve, Bernice's lapses from normalcy into the Polly state became less and less frequent, until now we feel confident that Polly will soon be eradicated

entirely, if, indeed, that personality is not now eradicated."

And this is what Bernice Redick herself said of the dual experiences through which she has passed:

"It all seems so strange and unreal—this thing of having a dual personality. I never knew that a four-year-old child personality lived in my body until Dr. Goddard and his assistants told me about it. I know, of course, that I was sick and subject to a kind of fainting spells, but when I would recover from them and be my own self again, I would have no recollection of lapse of time or what I said or did when I was not my real self."

"I felt myself getting better as soon as Dr. Goddard began hypnotizing me. After these treatments I could recall Polly and remember what Polly did."

"Certainly, I could have no wish to let a four-year-old child personality dominate me. And as soon as I came to understand my Polly personality, I found myself following Dr. Goddard's suggestion to destroy it."

CASE WINS HIM FAME.

"I already have the upper hand of it now and I hope to be rid of it entirely within a short time."

Dr. Goddard has been the storm center of a political fight since he was brought to Ohio by former Governor Cox to establish the juvenile research bureau, but the case of Polly has won for him international recognition. He remarked with confidence:

"I think we have succeeded in destroying Polly and preserving Bernice untainted by any inferior presence. Miss Redick's case is fundamentally right. The trouble was that the wrong inhabitant got into it, but that inhabitant has been driven out and will be kept out and Bernice Redick will be—Miss Bernice Redick and no one else."

CLASSIFYING WINDS HELPS WEATHER MAN

Interesting Table of the Indications of Varying Strengths, Prepared as Guide for Forecasters, Is Graphically Explained By an Expert Meteorologist.

SO EXHAUSTIVE in its methods has the English weather service now become that there is not a wind, whether it be a balmy breeze or a wild hurricane, which passes across the British Isles that is not recorded and included in the story of our climate. Nothing is missed, says a meteorologist, in an article in the London Daily Mail.

For the guidance of those who measure the forces of the wind an interesting table of the indications of varying strengths has been prepared. It is a glorious crescendo, beginning with a calm when the movement in the air is less than a mile an hour and terminating with a hurricane of an hourly speed of more than seventy-five miles. It has much interest even for the layman.

On a calm day the smoke rises vertically up to the heavens. When the wind is moving at three miles an hour its direction, not shown by the weather-vane, is indicated by the drift of smoke. Increased to six miles an hour, it becomes officially a slight breeze, which is felt against the face and rustles the leaves on the trees.

At ten miles an hour the wind is a gentle breeze which sets leaves and small twigs in constant motion and extends light flags. At sixteen miles an hour, now a moderate wind, it raises dust and loose pieces of paper and moves small branches.

When it reaches a velocity of twenty-two miles an hour the wind is officially "fresh," and makes small trees in leaf sway and on inland waters creates crested wavelets.

At thirty miles an hour large branches are set in motion and whistling is heard in the telegraph wires overhead. At thirty-six miles an hour whole trees begin to sway and it is only with inconvenience that it is possible to walk against the wind.

At forty-five miles an hour the wind becomes a gale, breaking twigs of trees and generally wrecking the progress of pedestrians. It is on attaining a velocity of fifty-two miles an hour when it is categorized as a strong gale, that the wind commences its frolics, sending chimney pots tumbling down and removing slates from the roofs of houses.

Gandhi Not A Pacifist

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is infinitely superior to violence." Thus what General Bishnoo said to King Yudhishthira in the Mahabharata, 2000 B. C., Mahatma Gandhi repeated in 1920 A. D.

All through the centuries the martial races of India have always preferred death to ignominy. The Mahratta and the Mohammedan, the Rajput and the Sikh are ever anxious to fight on the side they think to be right. Latest press dispatches from India and England have already begun to speak of the spirit of insurgency in the Sikh regiments of the British army of occupation in India. It is said that the Hindustani Gadar Party of Calcutta has been active in alienating the Sikh soldiers from their unpatriotic and mistaken sense of loyalty to the British crown.

Altogether there are about 400,000 Sikhs in India. In bravery on the battlefield none has ever equaled the mighty Sikh. During India's war of independence of 1857-58 it was the Sikh soldiery that reconquered their own country for the British Raj. I have been told by eminent Sikh revolutionists that the Sikh community as a whole is repentant for its treason against the motherland in 1857-58, and is quite willing and anxious to make full amends for past sins, and help India win her independence by force of arms.

It is reported that the militant Sikhs have recently burnt the pictures of the erstwhile non-violent Mahatma Gandhi at Amritsar, the holy city of the Sikhs.

The arrest of Mahatma Gandhi may mean the end of his non-violent, non-cooperation movement. And with the end of non-cooperation, revolution begins in India. According to reasonable expectation in the light of his past tradition, Mahatma Gandhi will soon have a chance to recruit soldiers again, this time not for England, but for the republican army of India.